

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John Shimmick on 3 June 2008.
3. The application has been amended as follows:

**Correct Lines 1-2 of Claim 25 to read as follows:**

The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the at least three adjustment members comprise adjustment screws threadingly coupled to the leveling plate and having ends

### ***Reasons for Allowance***

4. **Claims 13-29 are allowed.**
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record, whether alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest, in the context of independent Claim 13 or independent Claim 22, **an apparatus for adjusting a spacing between a gas distribution member and a substrate**, the apparatus comprising: a processing chamber including a gas distribution member; **a substrate support** disposed in the processing chamber having a substrate support surface configured to support the substrate; **a leveling plate** coupled to the substrate support; and **at least three adjustment members each extending from the leveling plate to a reference surface fixed with respect to the gas distribution**

**member; wherein the leveling plate includes at least three measurement apertures in the leveling plate** for mounting a measuring device to measure distances between the leveling plate and the reference surface; and wherein ***the at least three adjustment members are disposed at separate adjustment locations distributed on the leveling plate and separated from the at least three measurement apertures***, the at least three adjustment members being independently adjustable to change positions of the leveling plate relative to the reference surface and to adjust spacings between the substrate support surface and the gas distribution member to modify a tilt of the substrate support surface with respect to the gas distribution member.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### ***Conclusion***

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maureen G. Arancibia whose telephone number is (571)272-1219. The examiner can normally be reached on core hours of 10-5, Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Parviz Hassanzadeh can be reached on (571) 272-1435. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Maureen G. Arancibia/  
Examiner, Art Unit 1792

/Parviz Hassanzadeh/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1792